

Opportunities for value addition in underutilized crops and traditional foods: current understanding and future prospects

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ABSTRACT: Statement of the Problem: Despite the recent economic growth of the Indian economy, poverty and social exclusion of some society sections remain the same. In this article, we place the current debate on the emergence and growth of social enterprise via social innovation's theoretical lens to include persons with disabilities. The purpose of this study: The paper aims to answer the following questions: how does social entrepreneurship fit with current strategies in welfare policies and social service? What are the mechanisms and processes through which social entrepreneurs use social innovations to empower the socially excluded communities and thereby trigger the social change that enables sustainable development? Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: This paper draws upon a multi-case study of social entrepreneurs in India addressing social exclusion through social innovations. Findings: The study's findings argue

that social enterprises have a crucial role in eradicating poverty and social exclusion by using innovative business models. It not only promotes social inclusion but also simultaneously increases the productivity of beneficiaries by their social and economic contribution. Thus, it helps in sustaining the growth of the social economy and achieving sustainable development goals. The study findings also indicate the need for further research to test the social innovation business models at national and international levels. Conclusion & Significance: The article concludes with a discussion of promoting practice and research on effective strategies and capabilities of social enterprises to increase social inclusion at national and local levels.

Biography

Prasad Rasane is a doctorate in Food Science and Technology from the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India and is recipient of the prestigious INSPIRE fellowship Award from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, the Merit Award by the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, New Delhi, India and Research Excellence Award at Lovely Professional University, Punjab, India. He is currently working as Assistant Professor (Food Technology and Nutrition) in the Department of Food Technology and Nutrition and also serves as the Industry Interface Incharge, School of Agriculture at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab, India, since past 6 years. He has more than 60 high impact peer reviewed international publications, several international book chapters and has filed 20 Indian Patents in his name. Dr. Rasane also serves as Vice

President, Association of Food Scientists and Technologists of India-Jalandhar Chapter and is a Life member of the Indian Science Congress. He regularly volunteers as reviewer of scientific publications for International peer review publications and numerous projects and also serves on the editorial board of various national and international peer reviewed journals. He has organized various workshops and served on the organizing committee of conferences and seminars.

Recent Publications

1. . Ambati, N. R., (2019) Social Innovation Practices in Sustainable Waste Management: Case Study of Successful Social Enterprises in Ahmedabad, International Journal of Scientific & Technology Research, 8 (12), 1978-1985.
2. Ambati, N. R., (2019a) The Role of Social Entrepreneurial Organizations in Promotion of Sustainable Development, Think India Journal, Issue-14, 5931-5944.

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